



HUGHES
HALL
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

GOVERNING BODY

Confirmed minutes

Sixty-ninth meeting of Governing Body Wednesday 6 May 2020

Via video conference

{} indicates that this item will be removed prior to publication on the College website.

Present: Dr Anthony Freeling (President, Chair), Dr Hilary Burton (Vice-President), Prof Jonathan Powell (Pro-Vice-President), Mr Mark Anderson, Dr Stephen Axford (Director of Research Translation), Prof Michael Barrett, Mr William Charnley, Dr Othman Cole, Mr Martin Coleman, Dr Bart de Nijs, Dr Bernard Devereux, Dr Claire Donnelly, Prof John Doorbar, Prof Ming-Qing Du, Dr Peter Dudley, Mrs Victoria Espley (Bursar), Prof Tamsin Ford (from item 69.3), Dr Markus Gehring, Prof Emanuele Giovannetti, Dr Fernando Gonzalez-Zalba, Dr Sara Hennessy, Dr Riikka Hofmann, Dr Sonia Ilie, Prof Bill Irish, Dr Agnieszka Iwasiewicz-Wabnig, Dr Philip Johnston (Senior Tutor), Prof James Kaufman, Dr Tobias Kohn, Dr Yury Korolev, Dr Alastair Lockhart, Dr Andrew Mackintosh, Dr Timea Nocht, Prof William Nuttall (from item 69.5), Mrs Laurel Powers-Freeling, Dr Corinne Roughley, Dr Carole Sargent, Dr Kishore Sengupta, Dr Eugene Shwageraus, Dr Jeffrey Skopek, Dr Jacob Stegenga, Dr Martin Steinfeld, Prof Andreas Stylianides, Prof Paul Tracey, Dr Caroline Trotter, Dr Lars Vinx, Prof Rupert Wegerif, Dr Clive Wells, Dr Jessica White, Dr Nigel Yandell.

In attendance: Mrs Julie Baddeley (for item 69.5), Mr Bill Conner (Director of Institutional Advancement, to item 69.9), Prof Neil Mercer (Senior Independent Fellow, to item 69.9), Mrs Wendy Solomou (College Secretary and Fellowships Manager, Secretary), Dr Ron Zimmern (for item 69.5).

Apologies: Dr Heather Blackmore, Dr Sarah Hoare, Dr Aisling Redmond, Prof Nidhi Singal.

On leave: Dr Paula Banca, Prof Gishan Dissanaik, Dr Ricardo Sabates, Dr Suzanne Turner.

Absent: Dr Mark Bale, Dr Stephen Cave, Mr Nick Gray, Dr Ajith Parlikad.

OPEN BUSINESS

69.1. Introduction

69.1.1. Welcome

The President welcomed Dr Riikka Hofmann to her first meeting of Governing Body.

He also gave a vote of thanks to Dr Danika Hill and Dr Vanessa Wong who had both recently resigned as Research Fellows.

The President informed Governing Body that Mrs Julie Baddeley (By-Fellow) Dr Ron Zimmern (Fellow in Class G) would be joining the meeting for item 69.5.

69.1.2. Declarations of Interests (Open Business)

Dr Iwasiewicz-Wabnig declared an interest in item 69.5 but was not required to leave the meeting when the item was discussed.

69.2. Minutes and Matters arising from the Open Business of the Sixty-eighth meeting of Governing Body, 11 March 2020

69.2.1. Approval of minutes (GB69 01)

Governing Body approved the minutes as an accurate record.

69.2.2. Governing Body Action list: Open Business (GB69 02)

- [68.7] Chapter Zero Working Group
The President to set up the Working Group and Fellows to volunteer to it.
 - A working group, comprising Mr William Charnley and Prof William Nuttall, had been established.

69.2.3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

69.3. President's Report

The President reported that around 240 students had remained in Cambridge, around 90 of them in private accommodation, and that they were coping well with the lockdown. He said that the University was contingency planning for a range of scenarios, to be discussed in more detail in item 69.6.

69.4. Record of Governing Body's response to two proposals in response to the coronavirus emergency put to a vote by email on 24-25 March 2020 (GB69 03)

Governing Body approved the following by circulation:

(1) The President and the Bursar were granted permission to terminate licence agreements (for student accommodation) from 31 March 2020 and to implement the action in a way that would minimise current and future financial risks to the College.

(2) Delegation of authority, the specific proposal being:

'Governing Body is asked to approve delegating its authority to the President should significant and unexpected changes relating to the coronavirus crisis require urgent decisions concerning the College's business. This would be a temporary delegation until the next Governing Body meeting, and, if exercised, Governing Body would be informed as soon as possible. Providing circumstances allowed the Bursar would be directly involved in decision-making.

Governing Body is also asked to agree that, should the President be unable to work or be otherwise unavailable, this delegation would be transferable to the President's respective deputy (the Vice-President or Pro-Vice -President).'

The President reported that neither he nor his deputies had needed to take any decisions under the authority that had been temporarily delegated to them.

69.5. Hughes Hall Centre for Climate Change Engagement (HHCCCE) and Chapter Zero (GB69 04a, 04b, 04c and 04d)

The President welcomed Mrs Julie Baddeley, Director of HHCCCE, and Dr Ron Zimmern to the meeting.

He reminded Governing Body that following discussion of a proposal to formalise the College's relationship with Chapter Zero, he had set up a Working Group (comprising Mr William Charnley and Prof William Nuttall) to consider the issues raised. The College had also taken external legal advice (paper GB69 04c).

{[REDACTED]}

Mrs Baddeley spoke to paper GB69 04b, which explained in detail the development of HHCCCE including the creation of and relationship with Chapter Zero, and to paper GB69 04d, which outlined a draft strategy for HHCCCE. Dr Zimmern, Mr Charnley, Prof Nuttall, Dr Iwasiewicz-Wabnig, and Dr Gehring also spoke in support of the proposal and fielded questions.

Governing Body approved acceptance of the offer and to the two attached conditions. It also authorised the President and Bursar to agree the exact terms of the agreement with Chapter Zero and the Hatton Trust.

The President thanked those who had helped in addressing the concerns of Governing Body and in developing the final proposal.

69.6. [CONFIDENTIAL] Update on COVID-19 business contingency planning (GB69 05)

The President spoke to a Powerpoint presentation (paper GB69 05) which outlined the collegiate University's approach to recovery planning. The strategy included utilising four scenarios ('extended lockdown', 'repeated waves', 'global doom', and 'rapid recovery') as a framework for thinking about and preparing for alternative ways the future could unfold.

The President proposed that the College's Recovery Taskforce should report to Council, and should consist of the President (as Chair) and leaders of five subgroups, together with two to three other people. The five subgroups, each to be supported by the Finance, HR and IT Offices, included:

- Education, Admissions and Student Strategy
- Staff Strategy
- Buildings, Grounds and Catering Strategy
- Community and Collaboration Strategy
- Income Generation Strategy

Dr Axford would lead the Secretariat to support all the groups. The subgroups would be accountable to the Recovery Taskforce and would liaise with the relevant University groups.

The purpose of the recovery taskforce was to plan for recovery under different scenarios and make proposals to Council.

The President concluded by informing Governing Body that the ideas presented were a work in progress which could and would be adapted and refined. He also clarified that individuals named as leaders of the subgroups were not yet confirmed. He requested volunteers to help drive the work of the Recovery Taskforce and to support Fellows who were employees and would continue to be heavily occupied with everyday business.

In response to a suggestion that student representatives should be involved, the Bursar and the Senior Tutor agreed that their support would be welcome and that two MCR representatives had attended every meeting of the current Silver Team (which the Recovery Taskforce would replace) and had proved to be helpful and insightful.

The Bursar gave an update on the financial implications for the coming academic year.

69.7. Procedure for elections to Council (GB69 06)

Governing Body approved a system of anonymous online voting to elect members to Council, since it would not be possible to follow the procedure outlined in Ordinance [A,VIII,8-10] via video conference.

69.8. Management accounts update (GB69 07)

The Bursar presented management accounts to 29 February 2020 and noted that the forecast outturn was based on financial data available at 20 April 2020.

69.9. Any other Open Business

There was no other Open Business.

End of Open Business WS